



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BELTON MAN SENTENCED FOR COMPUTER HACKING

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Belton, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for an unauthorized computer intrusion at Aventis Pharmaceuticals.

Thomas S. Millot, 46, of Belton, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this morning to three months in federal prison without parole, followed by three months of home detention, and a \$5,000 fine. The court also ordered Millot to pay restitution in the amount of \$20,350.

On June 15, 2004, **Millot** was convicted by a federal jury of all charges contained in a Nov. 19, 2003 indictment.

Millot was employed as an NT Information Technology security officer at Aventis' office in Kansas City until Oct. 2, 2000. In that position, Graves explained, **Millot's** primary duties at Aventis were to maintain security access for user accounts, detect and investigate intrusions into the Aventis computer network, and provide information technology security consulting to Aventis.

Aventis is a multi-national maker of pharmaceuticals, based in Strasbourg, France, with offices worldwide, including Kansas City. Those offices are linked together by a network computer system, Graves explained, which means that any computer or server connected to the Aventis network is a "protected computer" under federal law.

Millot gained unauthorized access to the Aventis computer network on nine separate occasions between Aug. 26 and Dec. 16, 2000, including five occasions after **Millot** left employment with the company. On Dec. 16, 2000, **Millot** deleted an Aventis associate's account from the computer network.

According to Graves, it cost Aventis more than \$20,000 to conduct a damage assessment of, verify the security of, and restore the integrity of the Aventis network computer system following the discovery of the unauthorized computer intrusion.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Curt Bohling. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow